

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, October 5, 2009

Attending:

Mayor Matthew Arnett
Councilor Thomas Brann
Councilor Shannon Cox
Councilor Jean Lawlis
Councilor William Shakespeare

The meeting was opened at 5:45 p.m. by Mayor Arnett.

1. The Finance Committee minutes of 9/23/09 were reviewed and no corrections, errors, or omissions were noted.
2. The Committee reviewed the Treasurer's warrants for signature. Councilor Shakespeare asked questions relative to Harris Computer, a software vendor used by the Town. The Town Manager explained that the bill in question was for the annual software licensing fee related to the Assessing Program used.
3. Tabor II
Those present discussed the pros and cons of the Tabor II item that is on the November ballot. Of concern to those present was the loss of local control over budgeting, and increased costs due to possible referenda elections needed. Although there is concern over the 'cost of government' in general, it was felt that the Tabor II proposal was not the right solution. Motion by Shannon Cox, seconded by William Shakespeare to recommend to the full council that the anti-Tabor II Resolution presented be endorsed. Vote 5-0.
4. School Funding
The Town Manager reported that the School Superintendent had indicated the likely loss of up to \$400,000 in general purpose aid to education in the current fiscal year. While the Superintendent feels that they can cope with that loss this year, there is great concern over the next fiscal year due to the loss of funding there as well. Also discussed was the fact that bids on the first phase of the high school construction project came in over \$800,000 over budget. The Manager will stay in touch with school officials over how this may impact the project.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lessard
Town Manager